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REMARKS

Appellant hereby provides the Examiner notice of the fact that the present application was previously granted special status. An application for patent that once has been made special and advanced out of turn by the Office for examination will continue to be special throughout its entire course of prosecution in the Patent and Trademark Office, including appeal, if any, to the Board. (See MPEP 1204 & 708.02).

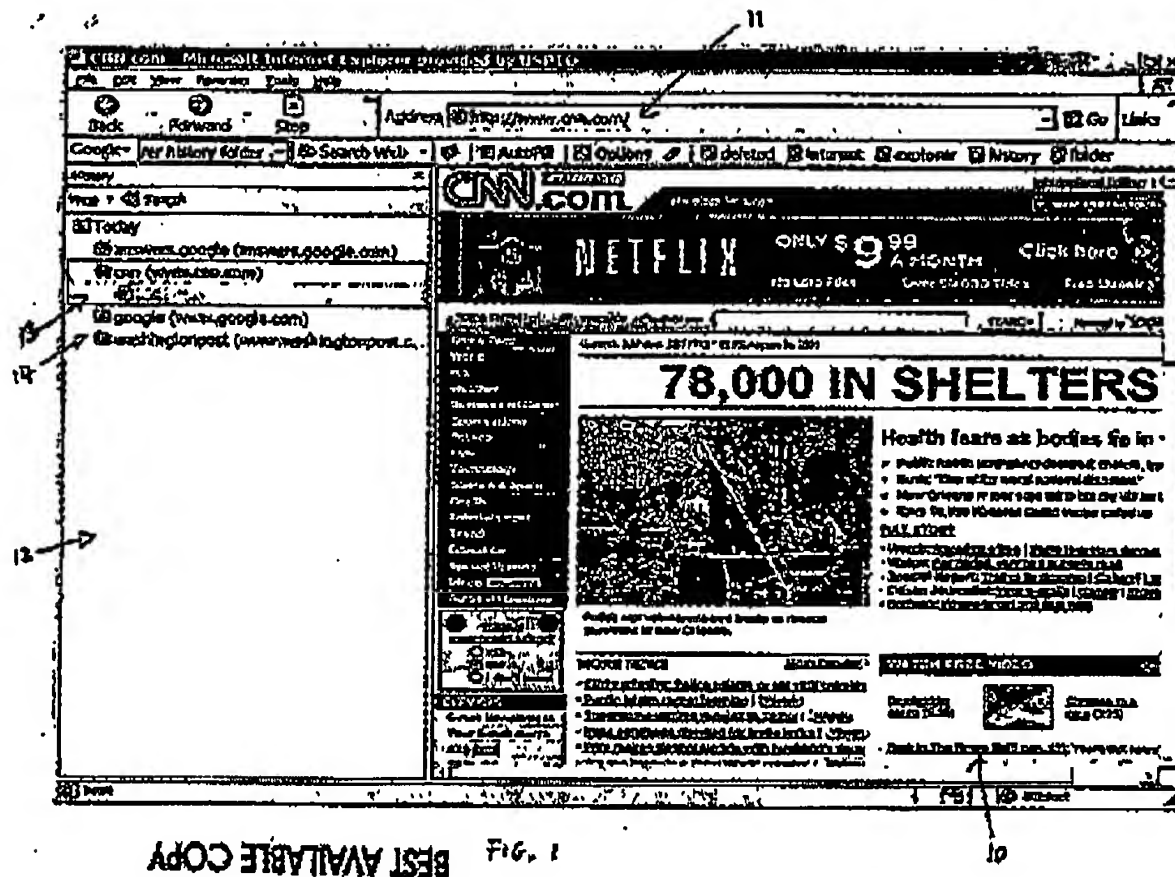
Further, the Examiner will, within 1 month from the date of receipt of applicant's formal reply, take up the application for final disposition. This disposition will constitute either a final action which terminates with the setting of a 3-month period for reply, or a notice of allowance. (See MPEP 708.02)

As stated in MPEP 708.02, during the 3-month period for reply, applicant is encouraged to arrange for an interview with the examiner in order to resolve, with finality, as many issues as possible. To this end, applicant hereby requests an interview with the Examiner, if a notice of allowance is not issued in response to the present amendment.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C 102(a) as being anticipated by MS Internet Explorer (IE). Applicant respectfully disagrees with such rejection, especially in view of the amendments made hereinabove.

It appears that the excerpts from IE relied upon by the Examiner are deficient in numerous respects. For example, the Examiner relies on Figure 1 below from IE to make a prior art showing of applicant's claimed technique "wherein a user is allowed to pre-select one of the identifiers" (see this or similar, but not necessarily identical, language in each of the independent claims, as amended).

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BEST AVAILABLE COPY FIG. 1

Specifically, the Examiner relies on identifier 13 to meet applicant's claimed pre-selected identifiers. Applicant respectfully disagrees with such assertion.

In particular, it appears that the Examiner has not taken into consideration the full weight of applicant's claims. Applicant's claims specifically require that a user is allowed to pre-select one of the identifiers. In sharp contrast, the foregoing "history" feature of IE relied on by the Examiner automatically post-selects the identifier to match the title and/or URL of the web page. There is simply no mechanism for allowing a user to pre-select the identifier, such that the user may determine with which pre-selected identifier selected content is correlated, as claimed.

Applicant asserts that this paramount deficiency is rooted in the fact that the foregoing feature from IE is simply a "history" feature that merely tracks which web pages have been visited in association with various sites, and not a feature that allows the user to pre-select a identifier such that, after the pre-selection, selected

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content associated with URLs displayed during use of the network browser may be correlated with the pre-selected identifier and stored.

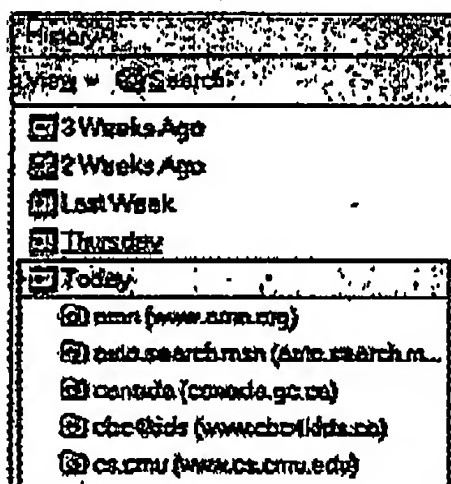
Further, it would be *unobvious* to equip IE with applicant's claimed feature. Note, for example, the description of the "history" feature below that was provided by the Examiner.

Using History

You can revisit sites by using History. IE5 keeps a record of the sites you have visited for up to three weeks. To backtrack to earlier sessions select View from the menu bar, then Explorer Bar and then History. Or just click on the History button in the toolbar.



The History Folder will appear down the left side of the screen and the page you were viewing will be shifted to the right. A list of the sites that you have visited are displayed in this frame. Most sites will have a yellow folder preceding the URL. Click on the yellow folder to see a list of the pages you have visited at that site.



The record keeping of visited sites carried out by the "history" feature requires that identifiers simply be automatically post-selected after a page is browsed in a manner that is transparent to the user (e.g. by simply post-selecting the identifier to match the title and/or URL of the web page, etc.). To allow a user to pre-select identifiers (in the context claimed) during such tracking would defeat the purpose of the "history" feature, as it would entail too much user intervention in order to provide the "backtracking" mentioned above. To this end, the "history" feature of IE *teaches away* from applicant's claimed invention.

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The Examiner is reminded that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Moreover, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the claim.

Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co. 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim.

This criterion has simply not been met by the IE reference. Nevertheless, despite the foregoing paramount deficiencies in IE relied upon by the Examiner and in the spirit of expediting the prosecution of the present application, applicant has amended the independent claims such that each include the following or similar, but not identical, subject matter, to ensure that IE is clearly distinguished:

“wherein the user is allowed to manually enter the pre-selected identifier”
(see Claim 1)

“wherein the identifiers are capable of being manually entered by the user”
(see Claim 20)

“wherein the pre-selected identifier is capable of being manually modified by the user utilizing a user-selectable object adapted for modifying” (see Claim 21)

“wherein the pre-selected identifier is capable of being manually entered by the user” (see Claim 22)

“wherein the pre-selected identifier is capable of being manually entered by the user manually adding to the plurality of identifiers utilizing an icon adapted for adding to the plurality of identifiers” (see Claim 23)

“wherein the identifiers are capable of being manually added by the user”
(see Claim 24)

Such feature, when taken in combination with the remaining claim elements, offers numerous advantages (which render such feature unobvious). The tremendous benefit of such clear distinction may be illustrated with an optional, non-limiting example of use, set forth below.

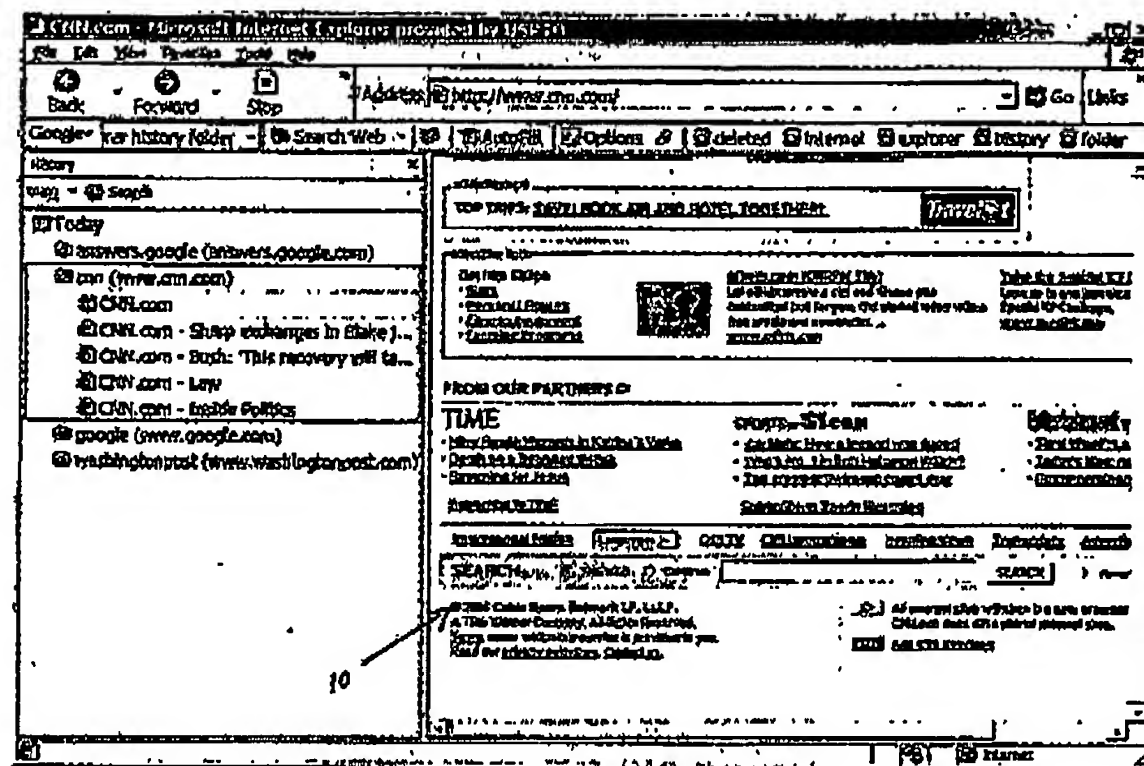
In the present example, imagine a user performing Internet research relating to two separate fruits, namely apples and oranges. In such case, the user may be allowed to manually enter an apple identifier and an orange identifier. The user may wish to first research apples. In the context of the claimed invention, the user would first "pre-select" the identifier reflecting "apples." "[T]hereafter" or "after the pre-selection," while browsing, the user may simply select content relating to "apples" for storage and correlation in association with the "pre-selected identifier."

Similarly, after researching apples, the user may wish to then research oranges. In such case, the user may "pre-select" the identifier reflecting "oranges" and continue as set forth above, *without* having to "post-select" (i.e. select afterwards) the orange identifier for each orange-related content found during research.

A notice of allowance or specific prior art showing of each of the foregoing claim elements, in combination with the remaining claimed features, is respectfully requested.

Applicant further argues that the Examiner's rejection is deficient with respect to many additional claims. Just by way of example, the Examiner relies on the aforementioned item 10 from Figure 11 below to make a prior art showing of applicant's claimed "wherein the identifiers include intellectual property identifiers" (see dependent Claim 9).

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Fig. 11

After carefully reviewing such excerpt and the remaining IE reference, however, applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion. IE merely discloses an intellectual property identifier in association with the content browsed during use of the network browser, and not identifiers that include intellectual property identifiers, where the identifiers reside adjacent to the window in which the content is displayed, as claimed.

Again, the anticipation criterion has simply not been met by the current reference, especially in view of the amendments made hereinabove. A notice of allowance or specific prior art showing of each of the foregoing claim elements, in combination with the remaining claimed features, is respectfully requested.

Still yet, applicant brings the following subject matter in new Claims 25-41 to the Examiner's attention for full consideration, which expand on Claims 1 and 9:

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25. (New) A graphical user interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the content involves competing activity.

26. (New) A graphical user interface as recited in claim 9, wherein a search is capable of being performed in association with at least one of a plurality of patents using at least one synonym, by:

identifying at least one claim associated with one of the patents,
extracting a plurality of terms from the claim,
identifying at least one synonym associated with at least one of the terms, and
conducting a search utilizing the terms and the at least one synonym.

27. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the terms of the claim are retrieved from a database.

28. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the terms of the claim are automatically retrieved from a database.

29. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein noun terms of the claim are identified.

30. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein verb terms of the claim are identified.

31. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein Boolean searching is incorporated with the searching based on the terms of the claim of the patent and the at least synonym.

32. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein AND operators are incorporated with the terms of the claim of the patent and the at least synonym.

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33. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein a plurality of the synonyms are identified based on the terms of the claim of the patent, utilizing a synonym database.

34. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the synonyms are incorporated with the terms of the claim of the patent to increase the breadth of the search.

35. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 34, wherein the synonyms are incorporated with the terms of the claim of the patent utilizing an OR operator.

36. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the word "claim" is removed from the terms of the claim of the patent.

37. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the search is conducted manually upon receiving a user request.

38. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the search is conducted automatically at predetermined intervals.

39. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 26, wherein the terms are modified based on results of the search.

40. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 39, wherein the terms are modified based on results of the search and user input.

41. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 39, wherein the terms are modified based on results of the search automatically.

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Yet again, a notice of allowance or specific prior art showing of each of the foregoing claim elements, in combination with the remaining claimed features, is respectfully requested.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. For payment of any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. SVIPGP003B).

Respectfully submitted,

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